



April 2, 2020

# COVID-19—DETROIT'S HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

The homelessness system's response to the COVID-19 public health crisis is being coordinated in partnership between the Detroit Continuum of Care (CoC), Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND), Detroit Housing and Revitalization Department (HRD), Detroit Health Department, Coordinated Assessment Model (CAM) and the VA Medical Center. All efforts are being made to continue to provide essential services while prioritizing the health and safety of clients and staff. This sheet provides an overview of the current response.

## Are homeless shelters operating?

Yes. Shelters and services for people experiencing homelessness are considered "essential services" under the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order and remain in operation. During the Governor's order, homeless shelters are to stay open 24/7 and provide three meals a day.

## How do people access homeless shelters?

Individuals or families that do not have a safe place to sleep at night can access support by calling the Detroit Homeless Coordinated Entry System, CAM at 313-484-4449 Monday through Sunday 7:00 am to 8:30 pm. Veterans can also access support at the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV). Any updates or announcements about this process can be found at [www.camdetroit.org](http://www.camdetroit.org).

### CAM Phone Line

313-484-4449  
Monday-Sunday 7am-8:30pm

### Veteran Access Point

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)  
4646 John R, 2nd Fl., Red Section  
Hours: Monday – Friday 8am-2pm  
DDOT Stop: Route 4, Woodward/Forest

## How are shelters keeping people healthy?

Shelters are screening for symptoms of COVID-19 at entry and throughout the week Detroit Health Department nurses are making shelter rounds to continue screening clients for symptoms. Shelters are frequently cleaning and practicing social distancing as much as possible. Each shelter has created an isolation space if someone becomes symptomatic.

## What happens if a person experiencing homelessness shows signs of COVID-19?

If a client in the shelter exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, they will be immediately moved to a safe isolation space within the shelter. The shelter will coordinate transportation with CAM to newly created interim shelter locations designed to serve three key populations – (1) clients who are symptomatic, (2) clients who are symptomatic and awaiting test results, and (3) clients who test positive for COVID-19. At the new interim shelter, Housing and Revitalization Department and Detroit Health Department staff will monitor the client's health and test for COVID-19. All clients in the interim shelter will continue to receive meals, basic case management services, and will be connected to health services as needed.

Outreach providers are continuing to engage unsheltered people. Someone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 can be connected to the interim shelter. If people do not want to enter shelter, outreach staff will continue to engage, educate clients on how to reduce harm and spread, provide support and connection to resources, and link to health services as needed.

## Can a leaseholder be evicted during the COVID-19 crisis?

No. Detroit has placed a moratorium on evictions. This means that landlords in Detroit cannot file evictions and all evictions proceedings are stopped until the crisis is over. However, this does not mean that the rental amount and other costs are waived. If a tenant has a judgement, they may be facing an eviction when the court reopens. Anyone in need of help with an eviction matter should contact the United Community Housing Coalition at (313) 355-3352 or [eviction@uchcdetroit.org](mailto:eviction@uchcdetroit.org).

## Where can I find more information?

Updates on Detroit's COVID-19 homelessness response can be found at [www.handetroit.org/covid19](http://www.handetroit.org/covid19), and you may email questions to [coc\\_coordinator@handetroit.org](mailto:coc_coordinator@handetroit.org).

General information on COVID-19 in Detroit can be found at [www.detroitmi.gov/covid19](http://www.detroitmi.gov/covid19).

If you have a general question about COVID-19 you can call Michigan's COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136.